



Canyon *Current*

“Increasing Knowledge Together for a Better Tomorrow”

Volume 3 - Issue 11 August 2011

Kitselas Celebrates Pole Raising



It was a beautiful sunny day in Gitau on August 7th 2011 for a pole raising that marks the last in a series to be raised at the Canyon Development site (at least for some time). The raising of the Dog Salmon Crest Pole brought in a number of spectators eager to participate as in previous years. Held as part of the annual Riverboat Days celebration the event was the perfect grand finale to the week long festivities in Terrace. After the pole was raised and the story of the pole relayed by Web Bennett, the crowd was treated to a salmon BBQ. *More photos on back cover...*

IN THIS ISSUE:

In the Community P. 2

Back to School P. 3

Health Updates P. 4

Community Garden P. 5

Youth 'Canoe Journey' Feast P. 6

Lands Update P. 7

In the Community

Sash's Place (Gitaus) Open 12pm-10pm 7 days a week.

Homemade Pizza - 18"-\$25.00, 16"-\$20.00, Personal Size-\$8.00, Ranch Dipping Sauce \$.50. *Toppings: Pepperoni, Pepperoni & Mushroom, Hawaiian, Deluxe, Veggie, Taco, Meat-lovers, Bacon Cheeseburger.* **Pizza By The Slice (Hawaiian or Pepperoni) available Mondays ONLY from 12pm-1pm. *NEW ITEMS*** Fries \$2.50, \$3.50 w/Gravy. Poutine \$4.50 or Poutine combo \$5.50. Corn Dogs \$2.00 (\$5.00 - combo), Chicken Nuggets (10) - \$5.00 (\$8.00 - combo) *Dipping sauces: ketchup, honey mustard, sweet and sour, BBQ.* Chicken wings (10) for \$9.50 (\$12.00 - combo) *Flavors: Honey Garlic, BBQ, Sweet & Sour, Salt & Pepper, Buffalo or Plain.* **Place your order with Sasheen at 250-615-5587 or Text (only) 250-615-3673 or via Facebook.** Order in advance to ensure order is made on time. Delivery available for those without vehicle or who cannot pick up. Outside Seating Area available - weather permitting.

Kitselas Lands Field Trip - August 26th. Want to learn more about Kitselas Lands and the Land Code? Spend the day getting out on the land! Open to any Kitselas member who would like to participate, free of charge. Please sign up in advance to avoid trip cancelation due to low interest. Contact Sonja at 250-635-8882 ext 232 or email: sfoss@kitselas.com to register or for more info. Meals are not included (you will need to pack your own lunch, snacks and drinks), insect repellent is recommended.

Elder's Group Meeting August 25th - Indian Residential School Survivors Society Presentation. Satellite Health Station (Kulspai) at 11:30 am. Discussion on Indian Day School, Common Experience Payments and the Individual Appeal Process.

Kitselas Head Start Registration for children aged 2 1/2 to 5 years (must be potty trained). Applications available at the Gitaus Admin Office (front desk). Parents please have Band Number, Medical Number and Immunization Records.

Ongoing

Good Food Box – 1 pm Every 3rd Wednesday of the month. Contact Sara Squires at 615-4771 for more info.

Elder's Group meets every Thursday for lunch at the Satellite Office - Kulspai at 12:00 pm

Floor Hockey - Fridays from 7-9 pm at the Kitselas Hall. Call Dustin Parker for more information at 635-1985.

Parent Connection will resume in September.

Do you have a community event, announcement, story or photo you would like to share? Community submissions are always welcomed at the Canyon Current! The next deadline for submissions is:

Friday September 16th 2011

Email: newsroom@kitselas.com OR Phone: 250-635-8882 ext 242

Contact our office if you would like to receive an electronic copy of the newsletter.



CanyonCurrent

“Increasing Knowledge
Together
for a Better Tomorrow”

**Volume 3 Issue 10
July 2011**

4562 Queensway Drive
Terrace, BC V8G 3X6
Phone: 250.635.8882 ext. 242
Fax: 250.635.8793

www.kitselas.com

Is your mailing address
up-to-date?

Please help us to maintain
communication with the
Kitselas membership. If
you have family and friends
who do not currently
receive information from the
Communications Office please
encourage them to be in touch!
Ph: 250-635-8882 ext 242
E: h.zornow@kitselas.com

follow us on
twitter

@Kitselas



**[www.facebook.com/
CanyonCurrentPage](http://www.facebook.com/CanyonCurrentPage)**

**Kitselas Treaty Group:
<http://on.fb.me/kitselastreaty>**



It's Back to School! Education Dept. Info

Get your Dogwood Diploma! Registrations are still being accepted for the 2011/12 school year at Wabsuwilaks'm Gitselasu Adult School. Applications are available at the Gitau Admin Building from the Front Desk. *Writing materials and textbooks are supplied by the school.

Criteria:

- Must be Status & registered with a First Nations Band (funding to support this program is based on registered status student enrolment)
- Cannot have graduated from high school with a dogwood
- Individuals must be committed to attending classes everyday and to being on time
- Ensure you have reliable day-care for children (Wabsuwilaks'm does not have funding to set up child-care)
- Be committed to achieving the adult dogwood within the school year
- Accept and respect structured class schedule
- Accept and respect policies and procedures as identified by Teacher and school staff
- Ask for assistance from teacher or tutor when necessary (we want to prevent students from falling behind in school work)

2011/12 Kindergarten-Grade 12 School Supply Allowance

The first check run for school supply allowances has been submitted. All late applications will be processed as per categories below.

Category #1 - Students who were registered in 2010-2011 Nominal Roll and their siblings will receive school supply allowances prior to September 1, 2011 (excludes students who moved off reserve or quit school during or after the previous school term).

Category #2 - New students to the reserve/Nominal Roll (including those attending Parkside whose enrolment isn't confirmed) will not receive a school supply allowance until enrolment in school and residency on reserve is verified. This batch of checks will be issued after the first week of school start date, or when verification is confirmed.

Post Secondary Student Applications

Kitselas Education department is accepting post secondary applications. All new applications will be placed on wait-list and processed after continuing students and new graduates budget has been finalized. Applications are dealt with as per submission date, qualifying institute and programs. Grade 12, or grade 12 preferred is a pre-requisite to funding. Non-qualifying trades programs may only be funded if there is surplus available.

If you have questions or need more information regarding any of the above contact Debbie at 250-635-5084 ext 231



BEAR WARNING! Please remain aware of bear activity in the community. With fall approaching bears sightings are likely to continue until it is time to hibernate.

Report problem bears to the Conservation Officer at 1-877-952-7277

Internet Service in Gitau

Acting Band Manger, Glenn Bennett, met with Charlie Graydon of *Graydon Group* (the current Internet Service Provider for Gitau) to discuss recent complaints of slow Internet services in the community. *Graydon* is looking into accessing more bandwidth to increase internet speeds, but mentioned that of the 42 users in the community, there are at least 4-5 "power users" whose high volume uploading and downloading activity is hogging the system. These users are visible within the system and may be subject to increased charges or may be cut-off should the internet usage continue to affect other users on the system. **Internet users are asked to please keep in mind that a high volume of uploading and downloading is a burden on the system and effects the quality of service for others.** More information will be forthcoming as improved Internet services are pursued. In the meantime questions can be directed to Charlie at 250-638-6070.



Pictured L-R: Cora Kennedy (Kitselas Council), Sharon Prince (NIFCS-Dease Lake), Pat Squires (NIFCS), Maria Koerner (NIFCS), Therese Hagen (Kitselas Health) and Joanne McKay (NIFCS).

The Northwest Inter-Nation Family & Community Services Society (NIFCS) delivered a presentation on August 4th 2011 at the Gitau Admin Office regarding the services they offer to 9 First Nation communities in the northwest region (Tsimshian, Haisla and Tahltan). NIFCS manages custody and guardianship for children who have been permanently removed from their homes. The presentation provided information on the various options available to families and others for getting children out of care. These options include the Extended Family Program (provides financial support when child is out of home and living with person child knows); Children Out of Parental Home (provides funds for Aboriginal children living on-reserve with a relative); 54.1 Transfer of Custody (for children who cannot return to their parents and cannot be adopted) and adoption (allows for an adult to become the child’s legal parent). NIFCS is working toward C-6 delegation, as it is called, that would enable them to provide full child-protection services. For more information on NIFCS visit their website at www.nifcs.org or call 250-638-0451 (in Terrace) or toll free 1-888-310-3311. The resources provided to the presentation attendees will be posted at kitselas.com (Click on ‘Programs’ under ‘Social Development’).

Health Department Updates

Therese Hagen, *Wellness Worker* will be leaving the Health Department to work as the *Community Engagement Hub Coordinator* for Kitselas and Kitsumkalum. While she will no longer be at the Kitselas Administration Building, you will eventually see her in and around the community in her new role as *Hub Coordinator*. We wish you well Therese and thank you for your work!

Referrals for Mental Health Counselling and Drug & Alcohol services are still ongoing. For a referral to counselling, please feel free to contact the staff at the Health Department at 250-635-5084.

The Home & Community Care Program is undergoing changes and adjustments. We are continuously striving to meet the needs of the Home Care clients. Danielle Branco is the Personal Care Aide who will provide support to clients requiring Home Care and Personal Care support.

The Health Department would like to thank the Social Development Department for the contribution of food for the Children’s Health Round-up held August 17th.

STAFF Hours of Operation

Health Coordinator:

Linda Innes
Monday to Friday
8:30 AM – 4:00 PM

Personal Care Aide:

Danielle Branco
Monday to Friday
8:45AM to 12:15 PM

Community Health Rep:

Jada Seymour
Monday to Friday
10:00 AM to 4:00 PM

Community Health Nurse:

Orie Shiga, RN
Monday to Thursday
9:00 AM – 2:00 PM,
Catherine Tanski, RN
Friday 12:00 PM – 4:00 PM

Gardens Grow Community Spirit



Kitselas Youth spend a day in the Community Garden with the Elders - Photos by Marcia Spencer

The Community Garden in Gitau has been growing more than vegetables over the summer months - with each turn of the soil community spirit blossoms. Dorreen McMillan first put a call out to community members to get involved in a Community Garden in early May of this year and the response has been overwhelming. Various departments within the Kitselas Administration have made donations, Lorraine Riddler donated 50 pounds of potatoes, West Point Rentals (Terrace) donated a rotatiller and gas and recently Henry Kelly donated the sign from the "House of Carvers" building to be re-finished and will officially adorn the garden. The community of Gitau has certainly taken ownership of this project. According to Dorreen community members have continuously made anonymous donations of equipment to the project and many volunteers came out to get the gardens started (potatoes are planted in lot #118 next to the Water Tower and the other patch is located in front of the Elder's Centre). Many people will stop by the garden to ensure it is watered, or will weed and remove rocks says Dorreen. The Youth of Gitau have spent the summer weeding and watering the plants and have enjoyed picking and munching on the peas - something many of us who had a garden as children can remember fondly. The vegetables are available for anyone to harvest and have even made a delicious garden fresh salad for the Youth Community Feast held July 29th (see article on page 6), prepared by Dorreen. Dorreen has been keeping the community up-to-date on the Garden activities on the 'Kitselas BC' Facebook page. Additional questions can be directed to her at 250-638-8339.

The Kitselas Elders invited the Canyon Current along to witness the dedication of a council fire pavilion at the *Soaring Spirits Rediscovery Camp* located between Cedarvale and Kitwanga in the shadow of the Seven Sisters Mountain Range. The camp has been growing and developing since 2007 and the addition of a new covered pavilion over the council fire has been a dream of Thom Henley, Camp Coordinator, for some time. Kitselas Matriarch, Phyllis McNeil, struck the match to light the first council fire under the new pavilion. All of the guests had been treated to a wonderful meal, most of which had been cultivated from the garden on the camp grounds and the fire took us into the night with song and powerful moments of emotion as each person was invited to speak. There are hopes to one day see a Rediscovery Camp for Kitselas in the future, be sure to stay tuned. The *Soaring Spirits Rediscovery Camp* is a beautiful facility with an amazing view of the majesty we love in the Northwest.

**For more information on getting involved visit:
www.SoaringSpiritsCamp.org**



Kitselas Youth Complete 'Canoe Journey'



Kitselas Youth with Lynn Wright (Program Facilitator), Isabelle McKee (Elder Mentor), Jennifer Joseph (Youth Mentor), Ross McRae (Canoe Journey Co-ordinator)

Kitselas Youth participated in a life-skills program called *Canoe Journey, Life's Journey* in the month of July that is aimed at helping youth make choices that motivate positive actions while avoiding the hazards of alcohol, tobacco and other drugs. They completed 8 sessions that focused on the Medicine Wheel, self-discovery, goal-setting, problem solving, effective communications and dealing with emotions.

To commemorate the completion of the program the youth organized a community feast held on July 29th. They did a wonderful job putting the event together from the set-up, seating and serving. Guests were treated to a meal of soup, bannock, and fried oolichan (a real treat prepared by Anne Wright). Afterward the youth were presented with a certificate of completion, a hoodie and a spirit stone to continue to feed them positive energy. In his address to the audience, Ross McRae commented that the number one need youth express is more role models - dances and more recreational opportunities are secondary. Certainly food for thought. Way to go Kitselas Youth, we are all proud of you!

Housing Arrears Means No New Homes this Year...

At the most recent Council meeting held August 15th 2011 in Gitaus, Housing Coordinator Ulyses Venegas announced that a funding application to build 10 new housing units in Gitaus was declined by CMHC (Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation) due to high housing arrears. Council resolved to support efforts by the Housing Coordinator to address those arrears in efforts to getting back on track for next year. "At this moment the arrears are affecting the whole community", says Ulyses, "and I can not stress how crucial it is to the community that these arrears be resolved."

Individuals who are currently in arrears must meet with Ulyses to discuss a payment plan. He can be reached at 250-635-5084 ext. 232.

LET'S TALK!

On August 15th 2011 Council approved a proposal from the Communications Director to implement a Communications Mandate that will commit to open and consistent communications with the Kitselas membership and create a means for addressing community grievances by making the Communications Director, Hilary Zornow, the Official Liaison between the Kitselas Membership and the Committee to the Council and the Kitselas Band Council.

To implement this Mandate **a series of Coffee Houses will be starting in September and will carry forward on a regular basis to hear community concerns and discuss various topics**, including land use planning, treaty, self-government, and so forth. The Coffee Houses will be hosted in both Gitaus and Kulspai and community input into meeting times are greatly appreciated. If there is a significant interest from members residing in Terrace we will look into options for engaging the public in town.

Please direct your suggestions to Hilary Zornow,
Communications Director
Ph: 250-635-8882 ext 242
E: h.zornow@kitselas.com
www.facebook.com/CanyonCurrent



Happenings in the Lands Department

The Lands Department has been buzzing with activity this summer with a number of projects underway. Have a look at the various happenings...

Old Graveyard Clean-Up: The Lands Management Office hired a crew of Kitselas workers to clean up the old graveyard. It is very hard work as it has been overgrown for several years. The crew will continue to work until all of the old grave sites have been cleared.

Will Writing: The lawyer at Talstra Law Corporation has been given 10 names to develop wills. If you requested to have your will written, your contact information has been provided to the lawyer. The lawyer will contact you to set up a meeting.

Field Trips: The last field trip of the summer is scheduled for August 26th when Marcia Spencer (Youth Co-ordinator), Sonja Foss (Lands Manager), Jessica Weget (Lands Summer Student) and Anne McDames (Bus Driver) will be taking Kitselas youth to learn about the reserve lands managed by the Kitselas Lands Management Office. This is an educational event for all Kitselas members and even if the bus is full, you are welcome to participate. Please call the Queensway office to sign up today 250-635-8882

Land Use Planning: There is an educational and informational newsletter being developed by the Lands Management Office and the Communications Department. It will be distributed in September to all Kitselas members. The newsletter will have the schedule of activities and an outline of all of the ways the Kitselas membership can get involved with land use planning.

Did you Know?

The Lands Management Office is not a part of the Treaty Office. The Lands Manager is responsible for the management of the reserve lands that fall under the Kitselas Land Code.

If you ever have any questions about the activities of the Lands Management Office, please give Sonja a call at 250 635 8882 ext. 232 Or email: sfoss@kitselas.com



Pictured left: Danny Bevan and Amy Bevan, part of the Old Graveyard Clean-Up Crew hard at work. *Pictured above (L-R):* Sonja Foss with Chief Judy Gerow with Madison, Councilor Cora Kennedy and Danielle Millett from the First Nations Lands Advisory Board (he will play a supportive role throughout the land use planning process).

CAN YOU GUESS WHERE THIS IS?



Submit your answer to Sonja at 250-635-8882 ext 232 or sfoss@kitselas.com by September 8 12:00 pm for your chance to win a \$50.00 Save-On More Gift Card!

- JOB POSTING -

Lands Clerk (Temporary/P/T with potential for Permanent/Full Time)

Posting Date: August 22, 2011 – September 2, 2011

The Lands Clerk will assist in the efficient operation of the Lands Management Office through administrative and coordinating functions. This position may require evening and/or weekend work. Hourly rate is dependent upon work experience and education. The position requires a valid driver's license and the applicant must have their own vehicle.

Please forward your resume, detailing qualifications and experience by 4:30 pm on Friday, September 2, 2011 quoting position title (Lands Clerk) to:

Kitselas Band Council
4562-E Queensway Drive,
Terrace, BC V8G 3X6
FAX: 250 635 8793
Email: sfoss@kitselas.com

Totem Pole Raising - August 7th 2011



More photos from this event can be found at www.kitselas.com!

Pictured Above: the artists watch the pole rise (in cedar hats)
L-R: Brian McKee, Stan Bevan, Evan Aster, and Darren Bolton;
Far Left: Terrace Mayor Dave Pernarowski lends a hand.